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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS  
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NOTE: Compiled from various sources. Not an expression of official opinion.

LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 115

December 2, 1940.

WAREHOUSES FULL IN LATIN AMERICA. Question of how U.S. can absorb stocks of raw materials, one way or another, is immediate problem. Situation complicated by similarity in surpluses here and in Latin America. Oil-producing countries may find economies in danger. (By J.H. Carmical in N.Y. Times).

LATIN AMERICAN SCHOOL AT NORTH CAROLINA is innovation. University of North Carolina announces free "summer school," Jan. 18 to Mar. 1 for 100 students and professionals from all Latin American countries. School organized by university's Inter-American Institute headed by Dr. Sturgis E. Leavitt. Chile leads in number of applications for attendance at school. Social life to be stressed. (Special to N.Y. Herald Tribune).

OBSERVANCE OF PAN AMERICAN HEALTH DAY announced for tomorrow by Pan American Sanitary Bureau with ceremonies scheduled throughout Latin America. Health authorities, schools, radio and press to cooperate. U.S. plans include exchange of letters between state and city health officers with their Latin American colleagues. (N.Y. Times).

SOUTH AMERICAN AIR SCHEDULES EXPAND with Pan American-Grace Airways increasing round trips over Andes to four weekly between Santiago and Buenos Aires. (N.Y. Times).

FIFTH COLUMN SLOWS DEFENSE PROGRAM in South America, writer says. Chances of early construction of bases hampered by verbal and printed attacks from totalitarian agents. Negotiations with Argentina, Brazil and Chile clouded by effect of Nazi and Communist propaganda on those countries. (By Herbert M. Clark in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

ARGENTINE LEGATION BECOMES EMBASSY in Tokyo and Japanese Legation at Buenos Aires also raised to embassy rank. New ambassadors not yet named. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

BRITISH SAID TO HALT TWO BRAZILIAN SHIPS. British cruiser reported to have removed 22 German passengers from S.S. Itape, just off Brazilian coast. Brazilian ship Buarque reported detained at Trinidad by customs control officials. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

BRAZIL HAILS COFFEE AGREEMENT signed in Washington last week. Finance Minister places seal of approval on agreement. Some critics claim Brazil played Santa Claus role to other nations. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

15,000-MILE AUTOCADE TO BRAZIL announced by All American Civilian Council for Economic Defense, Inc. 60 cars will make trip from Ottawa, starting Jan. 15, to Mexico City, and 10 cars will complete trip to Rio, using Pan American highway where possible. (N.Y. Times).

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COMMUNIST CRISIS IN CHILE WATCHED by all South America because upon solution depends whether Communist party can hold only government position it has won in Latin America in 20 years of intensive effort. Communists allowed to operate politically only in Chile and Uruguay. Present Rightist-Leftist struggle in Chile may reduce Communist party there to underground position. (By John W. White in N.Y. Times).

DEPUTIES VOTE TO IMPEACH CHILEAN MINISTER of Interior, Guillermo Labarca, on charges of non-enforcement of election laws during recent contest in Valparaiso. Chamber of Deputies' confirmation of charges is unexpected. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

UNITY OF AMERICAS STRESSED BY CAMACHO in inaugural speech. New Mexican President warns Old World that common aims make American republics invincible. Ceremonies halted by tremendous ovation accorded Vice President-elect Wallace. Crowd applauds pledge of economic cooperation and defense ties. (By Arnaldo Cortesi in N.Y. Times).

NICARAGUA GETS DAY-OF-REST LAW in decree signed by President Somoza requiring all persons employing workers to give one day of rest a week, preferably Sunday. Includes household servants. Double pay granted for Sunday work. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

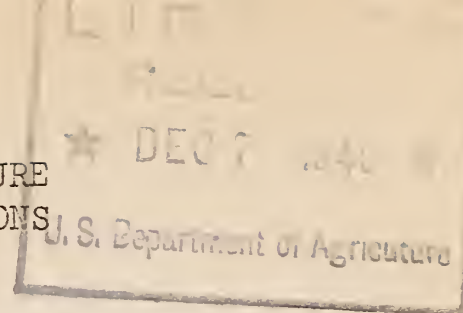
PANAMA NEWSPAPER WARNED by Panama's Secretary of Interior and Justice, who reminds Ted Scott, editor of Panama American, that Panama will not tolerate action incompatible with its neutrality. Warning results from reading of press bulletin, furnished by Scott, concerning damage to Italian fleet by British air force, over loud-speaker in local resort. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

TOTALITARIAN RULE SET UP IN PARAGUAY. President Higinio Morinigo assumes full power over army and people in proclamation for purpose of "orientating the Paraguayan revolution." Decree prohibits propagation of political doctrines contrary to constitutional regime and promulgation of "false and alarming" news which would affect the peace or internal public order. (United Press in N.Y. Times).

NEGRO TRAINING BASE IN VIRGIN ISLANDS urged by Edgar G. Brown, Chairman of the Public Policy Committee for Naval Defense Participation by Negroes, in letter to President Roosevelt. Asks President to set up training center for negro sailors and flyers. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 116

December 3, 1940.

NAZIS A MENACE TO AMERICAS if they win over England, according to Frederick E. Hasler, Pan American Society President, recently returned from good will tour. Says German victory in Europe would open way for Nazis to force trade relations on Latin American nations, against which U.S. wealth and strength could not prevail. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

TWO PERMANENT RUBBER EXPERIMENT STATIONS may be established soon as part of Agriculture Department's rubber project, according to columnists. Suggest stations will be located in Costa Rica and Brazil. Laud speedy work of researchers. (Washington Merry-Go-Round in Times-Herald).

DISCUSSION OF RUBBER RESEARCH in Latin America, by Loren G. Polhamus, B.P.I., heard at Seminar on Pan American affairs for Associate and Assistant USDA bureau chiefs today.

PAN AMERICAN ATHLETIC MEETS PLANNED, according to Lorenzo Di Benedetto, National A.A.U. President, on eve of organization's meeting in Denver. Suggests possibility of U.S. participation in Pan American Olympics. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

W.R. SCHREIBER EN ROUTE TO RIO to make economic study of complementary agricultural problems. After conferring with Erwin P. Keeler, Agricultural Attaché at Rio, Schreiber, representative of Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, will visit Pernambuco, Bahia and Amazon region.

ARGENTINA SEEKING 5,000 PILOTS in nation-wide campaign. 2,660 local commissions issue bonds to raise funds for training flyers. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

GOODYEAR DISCUSSES POSSIBLE DIRIGIBLE LINE connecting Miami, Fla. and Rio de Janeiro. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

BRAZIL REFUSES NAZIS PERMISSION to open trans-Atlantic air service planned by Condor company. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

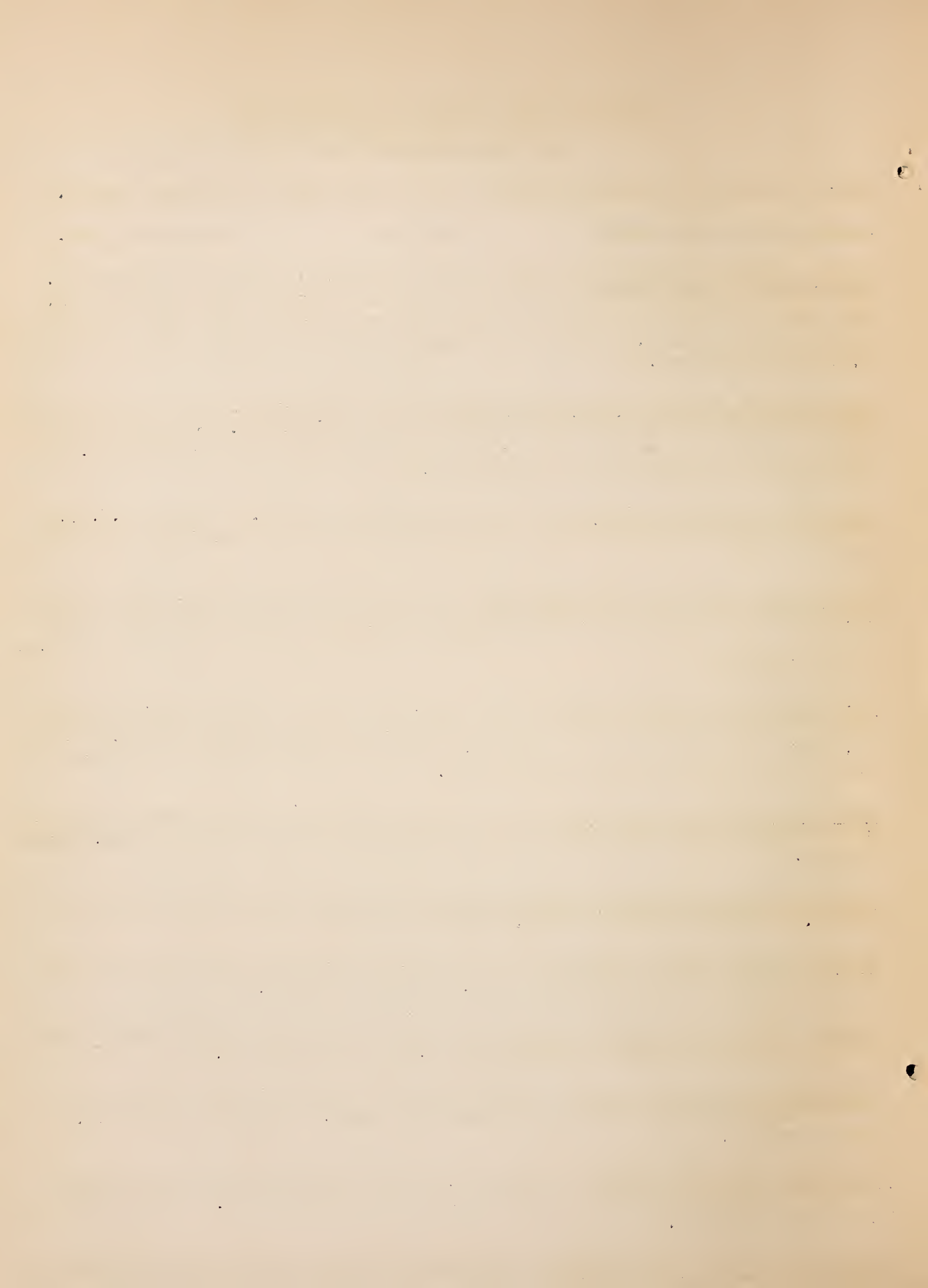
CHILE'S FIRST MOVIE STUDIO TO OPEN soon, under management of film pioneer, Jorge Delano, famous as political cartoonist. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

CUBAN TOBACCO WORKERS STRIKE in protest against alleged failure of employers to observe 44-hour week. Hundreds involved in walk-out. (United Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

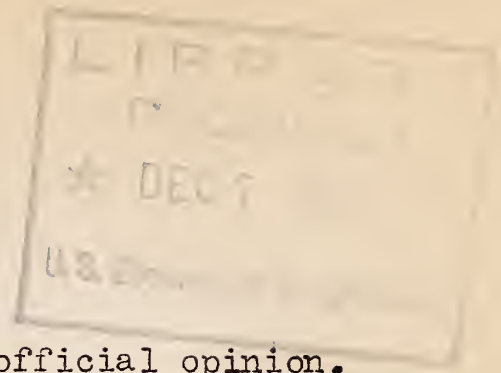
NAZI SHIPS SEEK CUBAN HAVEN according to reports from Havana concerning German freighters Idarwald and Rhein which recently left Mexican port. (United Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

LAWRENCE W. CRAMER RESIGNS POST as Governor of Virgin Islands. Says resignation effective at President's pleasure. (United Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).





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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 117

December 4, 1940.

COMMUNIST SPLIT IN SOUTH AMERICA may have permanent effect on campaign in that area, writer believes. Internal strife aroused by orders issued from New York headquarters of Communist party. Members opposing nazism and fascism in favor of Good Neighbor policy being purged as Trotskyites. Severity of purge in Uruguay has left party there without leaders. (By John W. White in N.Y. Times).

ADDITIONAL \$25,000,000 FOR ATLANTIC BASES granted by President from emergency funds to facilitate surveys and construction for army garrisons at new base sites. Field parties to sail soon for Trinidad, Jamaica, British Guiana, Antigua, Bahamas, and St. Lucia. (Associated Press in N.Y. Times).

HULL HAILS LATIN AMERICAN FLYERS in statement assuring nations that Pan American Aviation Day, set for Dec. 17, was not intended to discriminate against early flyers and aviation pioneers in this hemisphere. Although U.S. honors Wright brothers, according to Secretary of State it also will honor Alberto Santos-Dumont and Bartolomé de Guzmán of Brazil; Jorge Chávez, Santiago de Cárdenas and Juan Bielovucic of Peru, and others. (Special to N.Y. Times).

PAN AMERICAN AIRWAYS MAY AVOID ORDER which requires minimum of expansion in field of commercial aviation for purpose of speeding war plane production, with its reported plans for Latin American airline operations. Permission for PAA to buy necessary equipment in spite of restrictions said to be recommended by War Secretary Stimson and Navy Secretary Knox to further hemispheric defense policy. (United Press in Washington Daily News).

BRAZIL TO PROTEST BRITISH SEIZURES involving removal of 22 Germans from freighter by British cruiser, seizure of merchandise from Brazilian ship at Trinidad, and detention of steamer at Gibraltar. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

CHILEAN CRITICIZES CREDIT METHODS suggested by National Council of Foreign Commerce of U.S. outlining conditions for granting credit to Chile. Minister of Finance Marcial Mora disagrees with National Council's statement that U.S. purchases of basic products would settle Chile's economic problem. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

WALLACE, DANIELS FETE AVILA CAMACHO, Mexico's new President, with reception at American Embassy in Mexico City. Camacho pledges sharing of responsibility of strengthening democracy in this hemisphere. Solid support pledged by Mexican legislature to new president. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

GENERAL ANDREWS INSPECTS AIR BASES under construction at Puerto Rico. Now commander of Headquarters Air Force at Panama Canal views construction for bases to accommodate flying fortresses. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

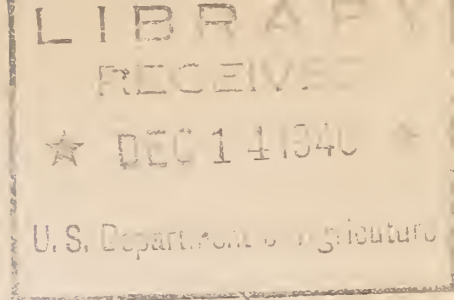
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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 118

December 5, 1940.

BRAZILIAN BOMBER CRASHES, KILLING CREW of two, and woman in Mexico City house which plane strikes. Bomber was being flown to Brazil from Inglewood, California. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

PRESIDENT ORDERS PLANE FOR MRS. DAVILA. Sets aside army regulations forbidding women aboard military planes in order to allow "flying fortress" to transport ailing Mrs. Herminia Dávila, wife of Carlos Dávila, former Chilean president, to her home in Santiago. Presidential action follows request by Chilean foreign minister. Mrs. Dávila's condition regarded too dangerous to permit longer trip. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

CHILE CHAMBER BANS COMMUNIST PARTY. Chamber of Deputies passes bill outlawing party in four-minute action. Bill prohibits all Communist activities and teaching of Communist doctrines. Passage is victory for foes of present Popular Front government. (United Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

CHILEANS TO STUDY AIR WARFARE. 22 Chilean pilots will leave soon for visits to countries at war to study progress in aviation materiel and modern methods. Committee headed by Air Commander Tovarria, making final preparations. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

CUBAN PATRIOT DIES. Col. Francisco López Leyva, who was veteran of Cuban independence war and former Secretary of Interior, dies in Santa Clara. (Special to New York Times).

CUBAN REVOLUTIONARY LEADER SLAIN in fusillade of bullets fired from passing automobile. Julio Fernández Travejo, former National Police Lieutenant, was leader against Machado regime. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

ECUADOR'S 1941 BUDGET ANNOUNCED. Revenues for coming year estimated at \$7,813,333, expenses at \$7,657,830, leaving predicted surplus of \$156,266. National defense gets largest allotment with public education second. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

U.S. MILITARY MISSION FOR ECUADOR has been requested, according to report, to replace Italian mission which has advised government for several years. (Special to New York Times).

PRESIDENT CAMACHO GETS CATHOLIC SUPPORT. Mexico's Archbishop Martínez issues appeal to congregations to cooperate with new president, stressing point that he is first president in many years to openly profess himself a Catholic. (Wireless to N.Y. Times).

DR. BRIN MAY BE PANAMA'S ENVOY to U.S., according to report. Resignation of Ambassador Jorge Boyd said to have been accepted by President Arias. Dr. Carlos Brin is chief surgeon at Government Hospital, graduate of George Washington University. (Wireless to N.Y. Times).





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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 119

December 6, 1940.

DIPLOMATIC PROTEST TO GREAT BRITAIN by American republics may result if official inquiries into halting and searching of Brazilian ships support reports that neutrality zone was violated. U.S. State Department conferring with British Embassy on affairs. (Special to N.Y. Times).

\$50,000,000 LOAN GRANTED TO ARGENTINA by U.S. to stabilize currency, according to Treasury Secretary Morgenthau. Action climaxes negotiations with Argentine financial mission. Secretary Hull approves step as aid to hemispheric economic defense. Indications are that Export-Import Bank may lend Argentina similar amount. (By Frederick R. Barkley in N.Y. Times).

ARGENTINE PESO BOLSTERED 10 POINTS to 23.70 cents, reflecting news of U.S. credit grant to Argentine Government. (N.Y. Times).

CHILE HOST TO RED CROSS CONFERENCE. President Pedro Aguirre Cerda opens fourth Pan American Red Cross Conference in Santiago. Delegates of 21 republics, members of Chilean Cabinet and Congress, present at opening ceremony. Hemispheric viewpoint stressed. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

PRESIDENT CONSIDERING VISIT TO CHILE according to Chile's former Ambassador to U.S. Alberto Cabero. Says he understands Roosevelt may try fishing in Chile's southern lakes. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

EXTENSION OF PRESIDENTIAL TERM is principal item on agenda of Honduras Congress, convening for 119th session. Constitutional amendment extending present term from 1943 to 1948 expected to be ratified. (United Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

WALLACE CONCLUDES MISSION IN MEXICO but intends to vacation for two weeks in State of Michoacan with Mrs. Wallace and small group. Vice President-elect declares himself highly satisfied with results of conversations with representatives of American republics at Camacho inauguration. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

DANIELS TO RETIRE AS ENVOY TO MEXICO, he tells press. Will spend Christmas holidays in U.S., returning to post for period not exceeding one year and "probably just three months." Mexicans believe successor may be Ernest Gruening, Governor of Alaska, who has many friends in new Mexican Government. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

NICARAGUA STRESSING INCREASED EXPORTS TO U.S. in effort to obtain dollars with which to buy American merchandise, according to Premier Leonard Arguello. Says quality of American merchandise is good but prices high. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 120

December 7, 1940

PRESIDENT VISITS JAMAICA BASE SITE on defense inspection cruise through Caribbean. Aboard Cruiser Tuscaloosa, Chief Executive looks over U.S. naval base at Guantánamo, Cuba, and site for new base off Portland Bight, leased from Great Britain in destroyer deal. Jamaica residents highly pleased with Presidential visit. (United Press in N.Y. Times).

SOUTH ATLANTIC SCENE OF NAVAL CHASE as British Carnarvon Castle engages German auxiliary cruiser 800 miles northeast of Montevideo. British ship said to be carrying German prisoners removed from Brazilian S.S. Itape. British war vessels searching area, within hemisphere neutrality zone, for Nazi raider. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

U.S. CULTURAL RELATIONS NEEDS STRESSED by Dr. Ary C. Fernandes of Brazilian Department of Agriculture in talk before U.S.D.A. Pan American seminar for information men. Cites past failures and future opportunities of U.S. movies, radio, and press in efforts to correlate cultural institutions of two continents.

BRAZILIAN ANGER TOWARD BRITAIN COOLS. Controversy over halting of three Brazilian ships on way to happy solution. Press believes outcome will be "in accord with Brazil's dignity." Foreign Minister Aranha denies rumor of possible meeting of American republics to discuss issue. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

300,000 TONS OF CHILEAN NITRATE reported to have been sold to U.S., to be held at disposal of U.S. Government. About 60 percent of purchase price earmarked for U.S. machinery. (United Press in N.Y. Times).

DESTROYERS-FOR-NAVAL-BASES DEAL WITH MEXICO about to be concluded by U.S. along same lines as recent agreement with Great Britain. 12 over-age destroyers to be traded for number of air and naval base sites, including highly strategic Pacific Coast location. (Washington Times-Herald and N.Y. Herald Tribune).

NICARAGUAN MERCHANTS BUYING MORE FROM U.S. German traders increase purchases from U.S. and Mexico in desperate effort to keep going. Some German firms already forced out of business. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

SEARCH FOR OIL IN NICARAGUA, financed by American interests, to begin soon. Finance Minister grants concession covering 7,000,000 acres. Group will spend as much as \$2,000,000 in survey. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

SECRETARY KNOX ENDS CANAL INSPECTION, urges placing of tanks for oil and gasoline, vital to Panama Canal operation, underground. Secretary honored at dinner given by Panamanian President Arias. Knox to fly to Puerto Rico to witness maneuvers with President Roosevelt. (Wireless to N.Y. Times).

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 121

December 9, 1940.

CAMPAIGN FOR HEMISPHERE UNITY draws increasing number of participants as Coordinator Rockefeller speeds up program of interchange in cultural fields of music, art, movies and radio. Rockefeller insists that truth is only real weapon U.S. can use against totalitarian propaganda. (By Garnett D. Horner in Washington Star)

VAST EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN URGED by Philip Leonard Green, Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, at American University Latin American Conference. Suggests need for gearing educational campaign to psychology of each Latin American nation. Huge U.S. trade increase cited as indication of what can be accomplished. (Washington Times-Herald).

SUGAR MARKETING QUOTAS INCREASE for Cuba and Philippines, according to U.S.D.A. announcement. Total quota for 1941 is 6,616,817 short tons, up 145,455 short tons over 1940. Domestic quotas and those for Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands remain same. (Associated Press in N.Y. Times).

LATIN DELIVERIES WORRY EXPORTERS. Inability to keep export schedules feared when defense production gets into full swing. Pinch not felt yet although some traders report tightening of export deliveries. South American orders increase in anticipation of acute situation here. (By Charles E. Egan in N.Y. Times).

SECRETARY KNOX TO JOIN PRESIDENT aboard cruiser Tuscaloosa to witness war games in Caribbean. Presidential party believed near U.S. naval base at Culebra Island, just off Puerto Rico. (United Press in N.Y. Times).

NAZI BLOCKADE RUNNER REPORTED SINKING in Caribbean 75 miles south of Cuba, well within neutrality zone after reported attack by British cruiser. S.S. Idarwald radios that crew is abandoning ship. (United Press in Washington Times-Herald).

VARGAS MILITANT IN SOLIDARITY PLEA before Brazilian army reserve officers, declares love for peace does not mean "suicidal pacifism." Says Brazil has not faltered in obligations for hemisphere unity. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

DAVILA PLANE LANDS AT LIMA. U.S. Army "flying fortress," carrying ailing Señora Carlos Dávila arrives safely in Peru from Canal Zone, will leave today for Santiago. (Associated Press in N.Y. Times).

CUBAN STUDENTS FLAIL SPANISH CONSUL in public manifesto asking government to declare Genaro Risca persona non grata and demand his recall. Students, members of "University Anti-Fifth Columnist Front" assert aim to inform public of anti-Cuban activities. (Wireless to N.Y. Times).

TIDE OF OPTIMISM SWEEPS MEXICO. Wallace visit and speech of new President are favorable factors. New flow of capital noted. Prices rising in stock market as confidence in land and production reappears. Bank of Mexico forced to buy dollars to prevent too-rapid rise of peso. (By Arnaldo Cortesi in N.Y. Times).

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MEXICAN PRESIDENT LISTS BELONGINGS in compliance with new law aimed at detecting dishonesty. Now President Camacho declares total wealth to be 37,000 pesos and that of his wife 68,500 pesos, totaling about \$20,000. Has no cash in bank, all wealth being tied up in real estate. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

MESSENGER CARRYING \$2,000,000 TO MEXICO from U.S. recently was Count Roberti, son-in-law of prominent New Jersey capitalist, columnists report. Money reported to be for operating expenses of Italian Embassy but writers believe part of money was used to incite demonstration against Wallace. (Washington Merry-Go-Round in Times-Herald).

NICARAGUA TO HONOR POET DARIO. House in which Rubén Darío was born to be preserved as national shrine and school to be established as memorial. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

PUERTO RICO AIDED BY DEFENSE EXPANSION according to annual report of Governor Leahy. Increase of 33 percent in bank deposits, continued building activities, and increased revenues attributed to defense pay rolls. Temporary sugar quota suspension also boosted revenue. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

PUERTO RICANS SEND PLEA TO NLRB. 125 CIO chauffeurs take first case to National Labor Relations Board claiming they were discharged by Arundel Corporation after seeking improved working conditions and better wages on navy and air base projects. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

CARNARVON CASTLE BATTERED IN FIGHT with German raider in South Atlantic, limps into port at Montevideo amid cheers from Uruguayans. Luxurious liner, built for cruises, covered with spectacular-appearing wounds, described by British as unimportant. 22 German prisoners, thought to be aboard, had been transferred to another vessel. British battleship Warspite reported chasing Nazi raider off Uruguayan coast. Possibility of action heightened by fact that Warspite's speed is greater than raider's. (By John W. White in N.Y. Times).

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 122

December 10, 1940.

DEFENSE LOANS FOR SOUTH AMERICA ADVOCATED by Robert H. Fouke of California Maritime Academy, in talk before Merchant Marine Conference in New Orleans. Loans to Latin America from our gold reserve called sound fiscal policy. Deplores condition of U.S. Merchant Marine. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

DEVELOPMENT OF DAIRY INDUSTRIES in Americas is aim of recently organized Western Hemisphere Committee for dairy industries, at Pan American Union. Representatives of American republics and Canada discuss problems involved in general plan to help increase internal economic strength of American nations through improvement of dairy industries and products.

PRESIDENT VISITS MORE BASE SITES on cruise through Caribbean, conferring with officials at Martinique and British islands of Antigua and St. Lucia. (Associated Press in N.Y. Times).

CARNEGIE GROUP STRESSES PAN AMERICANISM as principal object of Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, following semi-annual meeting of trustees. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

U.S. COFFEE SUPPLY ON INCREASE according to N.Y. Coffee and Sugar Exchange which reports 1,246,735 bags imported in October, first month included in new inter-American coffee agreement. U.S. supply now is 1,820,374 bags. (N.Y. Times).

CHILE BARS JAPANESE BID for important holdings in Chilean cobalt enterprises in spite of attractive offers made by Mitsui interests. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

PLANE CARRYING MRS. CARLOS DAVILA lands at Chilean airport after trip described as "very satisfactory" by former Chilean President. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

CREW OF GERMAN FREIGHTER IDARWALD hunted by Cuban naval launches. Some of freighter's crew may have escaped in life boats although officials believe most were apprehended by British cruiser said to have attacked it. (Associated Press in N.Y. Times).

ENVOY FROM CUBA TO U.S. RESIGNS. Dr. Pedro Martínez Fraga, Cuban Ambassador to Washington since 1937, withdraws for "personal reasons." (Washington Post).

BATTLE-TORN CARNARVON CASTLE MUST LEAVE Montevideo today, after having been given extended time limit for repairs. Reich Government protests time extension. Rumors of new Atlantic naval battle denied. (By John W. White in N.Y. Times)

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 123

December 11, 1940.

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL AGRICULTURE INSTITUTE to be subject of discussion at today's meeting of Inter-American Committee on Tropical Agriculture at Pan American Union. Eight countries represented. Dr. Earl N. Bressman, Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, to speak. (Pan American Union Press News).

INVITATIONS TO LATIN AMERICAN NATIONS to attend Pan American Cotton Exposition in Memphis next year authorized by House. Bill gives President permission to issue invitations. (Washington Daily News).

ARGENTINE CHAMPAGNE ARRIVES IN U.S. 5,000 cases of a total 18,000 received here for holiday trade. Argentine Consul in New York says Argentina can supply wines formerly sent by France. (N.Y. Times and N.Y. Herald Tribune).

CUBAN FINANCIAL MISSION DISBANDS upon resignation of Cuban Ambassador in Washington. Official sources ascribe no reason. Cuban President urges confidence in ultimate success of loan negotiations. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

U.S. BANKERS OFFER \$100,000,000 FOR MEXICAN INDUSTRIES, as initial investment. Conservative policy forecast for new government believed safeguard for support offered by U.S. capital. (Jack O'Brine in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

MEXICAN OIL AGREEMENT FORECAST by Francisco Castillo Nájera, Mexican Ambassador to U.S. who says he is "confident the Mexican Government will soon sign an agreement with oil companies whose properties have been expropriated." (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

WORKERS' MANAGEMENT OF MEXICAN RAILWAYS should end, says Mexican Minister of Communications in memo to new President. Speaks against increase in freight rates as means to save railways from bankruptcy. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

ONLY BEST GRADES OF NICARAGUAN COFFEE to be exported under regulations drawn up at conference in Managua. Ten percent of shipments to be held until size of crop is known. Slight price increase voted. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

ARMY PLANE CRASH KILLS U.S. PILOT in Panama Bay. Pursuit plane crashing 80 miles from Balboa was one of three escorting five Brazilian planes en route to Rio. (United Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

PERU TO REOPEN BOND SERVICE TALKS. Government to discuss equitable formula with holders of national Peruvian loan. Most of these bonds held in U.S. (United Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

PAN AMERICAN TEST FLIGHT TO PUERTO RICO today is first of series over proposed non-stop route from New York to San Juan. Yankee Clipper, withdrawn from trans-Atlantic service to fly 1600-mile trip in 11 hours with overnight accommodations for 32. Will step up PAA service to South America. (N.Y. Times).

CARNARVON CASTLE PUTS TO SEA AGAIN after repairs in Montevideo. British report German freighter Idarwald scuttled off Cuba. Crew captured. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

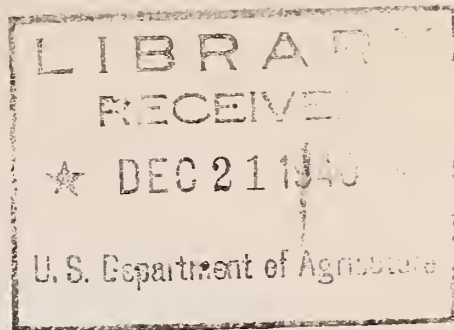
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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 124

December 12, 1940.

IMPROVEMENT OF AMERICAN SHIPPING pledged by Maritime Commission which will "do everything practicable" in accord with 12 resolutions and recommendations adopted by Inter-American Maritime Conference. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

LATIN AMERICAN MONEY IMPROVING, foreign exchange dealers report. Rise apparently is response to announcement of loans to Argentina and Uruguay. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

DUTCH DESTROYER CAPTURES NAZI FREIGHTER off Cuban coast. Crew of S.S. Rhein taken by Van Kinsbergen before scuttling is possible. Incident is first report of Dutch warship activity in Western Hemisphere. (Washington-Times Herald).

ARGENTINA RECEIVES \$60,000,000 LOAN from U.S. Move hailed as definite bolster to hemispheric solidarity. Secretary of Commerce Jones makes announcement of Export-Import Bank credit and a separate credit to Uruguay of \$7,500,000. Early conclusion of Treasury arrangement for Argentina to use \$50,000,000 of \$2,000,000,000 U.S. stabilization fund expected. Two loans announced supersede smaller commitments made earlier this year but unused. (United Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

NATIONALIZATION OF ARGENTINE RAILWAYS is problem being studied by British controlling interests. Owners foresee possibility of subversive German buying activity should railways' stock be offered for sale. (N.Y. Times).

LACK OF SHIPS TO CARRY BEEF may prevent Great Britain from taking full quota of Argentine meat provided for in purchase plan, according to Argentine Ministry of Agriculture. (United Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

CHILE MINIMIZES COMMUNISTS' ROLE in government. Foreign office firmly denies N.Y. Times statement that party controls government. Charge opponents with design to block negotiations with U.S. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

CHILE RESTRICTS DOLLAR EXCHANGE SUPPLY, as Exchange Control Commission announces exchange will be granted only for necessary needs and purposes. Travel dollars still available if trips are necessary. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

PLAN TO LURE FOREIGN CAPITAL designed by Mexico. Program would modify Mexican constitution, strip labor of power and modify expropriating law. Would also permit entry of skilled labor from U.S. (By Jack O'Brine in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

NICARAGUA CURBS FLOUR IMPORT. Director of Public Health prohibits importation of poor grades, rules that flour must undergo laboratory test and if sub-standard must be destroyed or returned to point of origin. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 126

December 14, 1940.

FOREIGN IDEOLOGIES MUST NOT SPLIT AMERICAS, Señora Ana Rosa de Martínez Guerrero, prominent Argentine feminist tells press on eve of sailing for native country. Spent six weeks in U.S., presided at Conference of Inter-American Commission of Women. Intends to continue fight against subversive activity in South America. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

TWO NEW ARGENTINE NAVAL VESSELS to be commissioned soon. Army transport also scheduled for use within next few days. Two Argentine-built mine layers to be called Robinson and Seaver. Transport will be named Ushuaia. (N. Y. Herald Tribune).

ARGENTINE-URUGUAY ACCORD TO BE SIGNED today it is reported, outlining defense cooperation and commercial relations. Reported to cover methods of construction for bases on River Plate and system of collaboration in hemisphere defense program. (United Press in N.Y. Times).

VARGAS DECORATED BY JAPANESE GOVERNMENT. Emperor of Japan confers Grand Cross of the Order of the Chrysanthemum on Brazil's President, it is announced. (Associated Press in N.Y. Times).

FIRST TRANS-ANDEAN FLIGHT REPEATED to commemorate feat of Major Dagoberto Godoy in 1918. Captain Enrique Flores flies 26-year-old biplane from Santiago to Mendoza. (United Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

NEW "LEFTIST FRONT" PARTY IN CHILE to include all Left-Wing groups except Communists. Anti-Communist campaign continues. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

MEXICO EXPECTS U.S. AID IN BASE CONSTRUCTION on Pacific Coast. Naval officials predict \$50,000,000 loan for defense work at Acapulco and Magdalena Bay. Mexican President reported ready to close deal for old U.S. destroyers. (By Jack O'Brine in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

NICARAGUA BUYS CEMENT MACHINERY in New York for National Cement Production Company. \$200,000 worth of equipment to be used to manufacture for local consumption and export to neighboring republics. Local officials believe they can make cement at half cost of U.S. product. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

THREE URUGUAYAN CABINET MEMBERS CONFER with President Alfredo Baldomir at his request, in effort to heal quickly breach caused in government by their resignations. Resigning ministers said to be against projected policy of collaborating with U.S. President hopes they will reconsider. (United Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

MONTEVIDEO BRITONS CELEBRATE VICTORY of British cruisers over Graf Spee on first anniversary of battle. Germans hold memorial services for victims of encounter. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

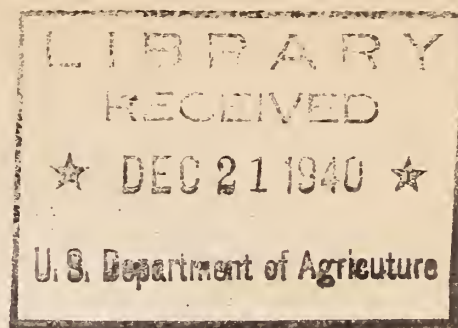
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Index to Latin American News Digest

December 1-15, 1940

Note: In each day's digest, items of general Latin American and Pan American interest appear first. These are followed by items dealing with specific countries and their relations with the United States. Each item from December 1-15, inclusive, is here listed under as many countries, products or other subjects as it touches. The items indexed are compiled from various sources including despatches published in the press.

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 127

December 16, 1940.

PRESIDENT, SECRETARY KNOX, APPARENTLY SATISFIED with progress of defense construction in Caribbean area. President said to have seen six of eight bases leased from Britain during trip. Some delay in construction noted because of local authorities' desire to know minute details. Integrating plan affecting established U.S. bases and British acquisitions under way. Puerto Rico continues to be spearhead of Atlantic defense. U.S. troops there to reach 20,000 by January. U.S. Caribbean air headquarters nearing completion at San Juan. Secretary Knox: "...six months hence it will be suicidal for a European power to send a hostile ship into the Caribbean. It would never get out." (By Harwood Hull in N.Y. Times).

TRADE GAINS WITH LATIN AMERICA noted by Dr. Joseph Tenenbaum, Chairman of Joint Boycott Council of American Jewish Congress and Jewish Labor Committee. Curtailment of Latin American imports from Europe is big factor. Declares necessary the fostering of non-competitive materials in Latin America for which U.S. can guarantee market. (N.Y. Times).

MINISTERS DRAFT RIVER PLATE PACT, enabling Argentina and Uruguay to cooperate in defense of River Plate Zone and to invite Brazil, Paraguay, possibly Chile, to join for strength of defense structure. (By John W. White in N.Y. Times).

ARGENTINE EX-GENERAL DIES IN RIOTING during election-day disturbance in Sante Fé province. Opposition party lead and claims of fraud may recall ailing President Ortiz to active service. General Risso Patron was member of opposition group. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

TWO ARGENTINE FLYERS KILLED as army plane crashes on El Palomar military airdrome. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

BRAZILIAN ARMY LEADER ARRIVES today to begin tour of U.S. defenses. Brigadier General Amaro Soares Bittencourt will be guest of General George C. Marshall. (Associated Press in N.Y. Times).

BRAZIL TO SEND NAVY MEN HERE to study naval construction and armament manufacturing methods. Previously Brazilian technicians have studied in England or Italy. (United Press in N.Y. Times).

COLOMBIA REACHES BOND AGREEMENT with Bondholders Protective Council of New York. Permanent agreement is for payment in next 10 to 20 years of \$45,000,000 worth of dollar bonds owed to U.S. holders. (N.Y. Times).

COSTA RICAN AIR SERVICE DELAYED as heirs of six victims of recent TACA airline crash obtain judicial embargo grounding six company planes. Control of line recently transferred to American Export Lines. (United Press in N.Y. Times).

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST-2

CUBANS BLAME SPIES IN THEFT of U.S. papers from offices of Major Hayne D. Boyden, U.S. Naval Attache. Documents stolen on night of Nov. 30. No information available regarding nature of papers taken. Havana press declares theft work of anti-democratic powers. Opposition parties urge President Batista to suppress fifth column-activities. (Wireless to N.Y. Times).

U.S.-MEXICO MUTUAL DEFENSE PLAN said to be in making, with both countries "moving cautiously." Pact includes financial assistance from U.S. for improvement of Mexican naval bases; plans for enlarging Mexican air bases for use by U.S. short-range fighter planes and naval planes in support of fleet; possible border agreement patterned after that between U.S. and Canada; partial mechanization of Mexican army; Mexican guaranties to U.S. capital for investment in Mexico. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

AMBASSADOR DANIELS LEAVES MEXICO on way home for Christmas. Expected to confer with President and Secretary Hull concerning his desire to retire. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

MEXICO TO DISMISS 6,000 OIL WORKERS, according to official of Petroleum Workers' Union, in effort to liquidate deficit of industry. Number marked for dismissal is one-third of all oil employees. Wide-scale reduction of wages included in plan. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

25 DIE IN TRAIN CRASH near city of Iguala Caztal, Mexico, after train leaves track on curve. No reason for accident given. Many of 46 injured said to be hopeless cases. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

YANKEE CLIPPER RETURNS TO NEW YORK from Puerto Rico in 11 hours, landing at 3 A.M. in first night arrival of flying boat. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

BRITISH WARSHIP LEAVES MONTEVIDEO. British cruiser Enterprise, unit of South Atlantic forces, continues search for German raiders after taking on food and provisions. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

COOPERATION WITH U.S. URGED BY PRESS in Uruguay, with publication of documents from archives showing that Uruguay waived neutrality and offered bases to U.S. and Brazil during war of 1914-18. (Wireless to N.Y. Times).

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 128

December 17, 1940.

U.S. EDUCATION AIDS LATIN AMERICANS according to Miss Edna Duge, Director of Latin American Department of Institute of International Education, after three-month tour of South American republics. Says that those who graduate from U.S. universities get the best jobs in Latin American government and business. Their influence as propagandists for U.S. is inestimable. (N.Y. Times).

ITALIAN VESSEL'S MYSTERIOUS SOS from Caribbean area picked up in New York. Message indicates need for "urgent assistance," gives name of ship as Istria, owned by Italian Line. May have been intercepted by British cruisers.

NATIONAL DEMOCRATS REPORTED WINNERS in Santa Fé province balloting. Voting closely watched by all Argentina for indications of trend in national feeling. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

\$36,000,000 IRON AND STEEL PLANT near Rio de Janeiro to be built by Cleveland concern. Will require about three years to construct and have 1,000-ton daily capacity. (Associated Press in N.Y. Times).

BRITISH-BRAZILIAN CONTROVERSY SETTLED, apparently satisfactorily to both parties. Cases of British warships halting Brazilian merchant vessels reported officially closed. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

THREE GRAF SPEE CREW MEMBERS ESCAPE from Chile on false passports after fleeing Argentine prison camps and crossing Andes presumably with aid of pro-Nazis. Others reported following same route. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

U.S. DRAWN INTO CHILEAN ROW as Communist Party organ charges Minister of Development Oscar Schnake was contaminated by anti-Communism during five months' stay in Washington. Schnake delivers bitter attack against Communists at Socialist rally. (United Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

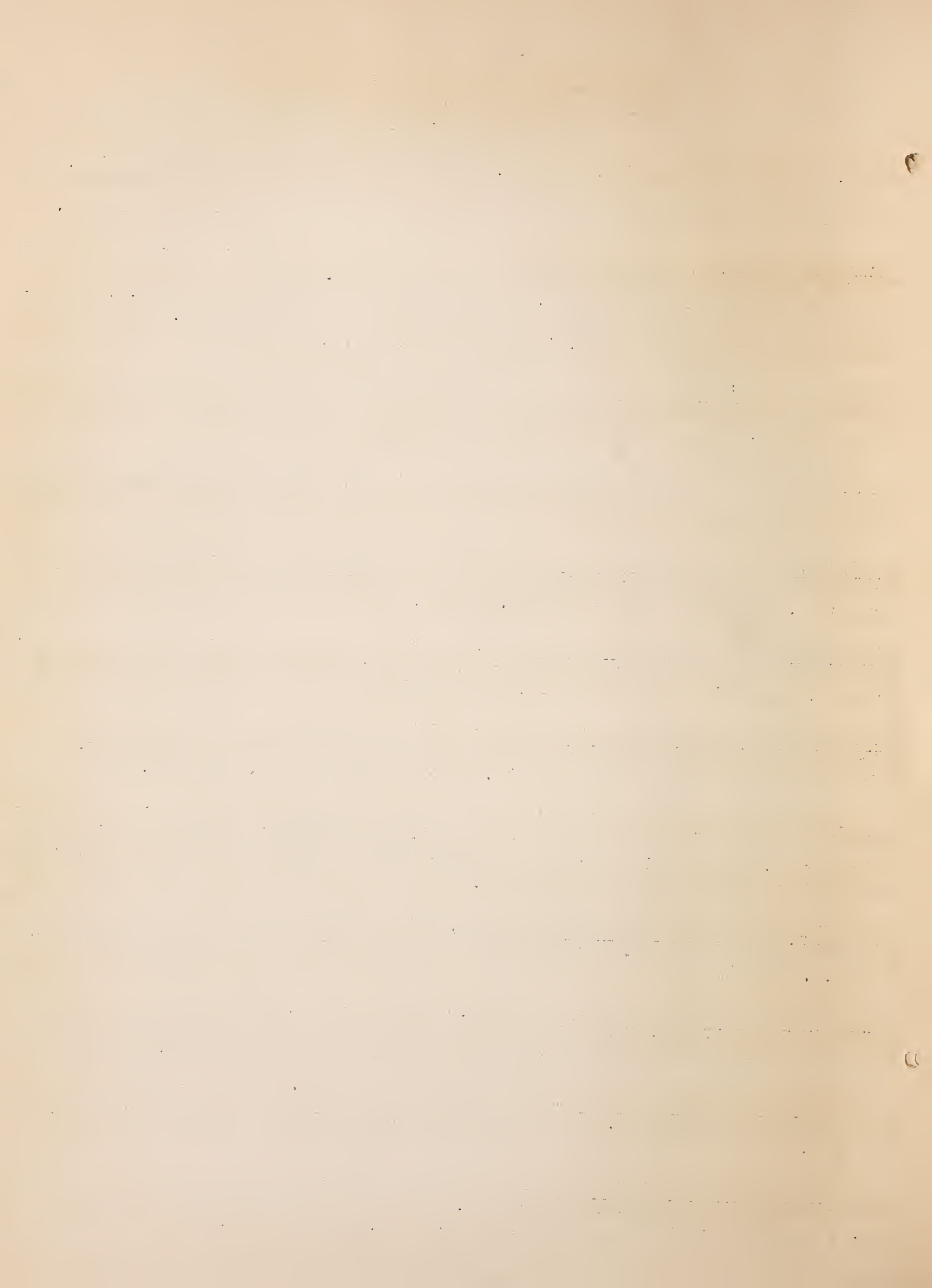
COLOMBIAN PUBLIC WORKS MINISTER RESIGNS, coincident with rumors of more sweeping cabinet changes to come. President Santos accepts resignation. (Associated Press in N.Y. Times).

MEXICAN ENVOY TALKS WITH WELLES on U.S.-Mexican issues. Dr. Francisco Castillo Nájera and Under Secretary of State to hold series of discussions during next few weeks concerning oil question and defense problems. (Special to N.Y. Times).

PANAMA VOTES FOR CONSTITUTION. Overwhelming majority in plebiscite favors adoption of new constitution, which becomes effective January 2. (Wireless to N.Y. Times).

URUGUAY TO INSIST ON BASE PLAN as authoritative sources deny agreement with Argentina will effect U.S. cooperation. Press says country will act alone with U.S. if neighbors fail to join us. (By John W. White in N.Y. Times).

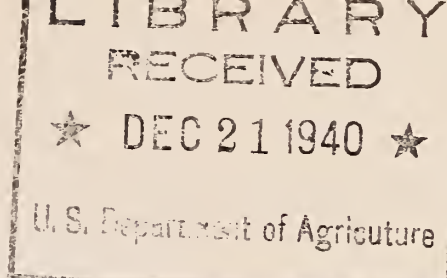
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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 129

December 18, 1940.

PAN AMERICAN AVIATION DAY OBSERVED in Washington in gala fashion with banquet, addressed by General George C. Marshall and Admiral Harold R. Stark, followed by "Hemisphere Premiere" of new movie, "Flight Command." At observance of anniversary of first plane flight, General Marshall declares nation at critical point but says "American people have declared in their most powerful manner their intention to defend this hemisphere at all costs against any intrusion from overseas." Thomas Burke, Chief of State Department Communications Division cites role of airplane in binding together nations of Western Hemisphere. Dr. L.S. Rowe, of Pan American Union, pays tribute to early flyers as pioneers for hemispheric solidarity. Similar celebrations held simultaneously in Toronto, Mexico City and Havana. (Washington Post).

INCREASED USE OF COFFEE IN U.S. is immediate way to create dollar exchange for purchase by South American countries of U.S. merchandise, P.R. Nelson, Vice Chairman of National Coffee Association, tells Export Managers Club of New York. Says coffee forms 63 percent of our imports from Brazil, 92 percent from Colombia, 98 percent from El Salvador and 40 percent from Guatemala. Believes increase in per capita consumption from present 15 and 1/2 pounds per year, to 20 pounds is possible. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

U.S. BASE NOT CHEERFULLY RECEIVED in Bermuda, according to writer. Bermudians apprehensive over establishment of large U.S. naval and air base, believing it will hinder tourist trade and general business progress. Labor problem becoming acute for private enterprise as wages on government projects are more attractive. (By John O'Reilly in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

GOLD FROM ARGENTINA AND COLOMBIA leads imports into New York for week. \$4,738,418 arrives from Argentina and \$2,810,988 from Colombia. (Special to New York Times).

ARGENTINE ATTITUDE BELIEVED CHANGING from long tradition of isolationism to complete orientation within American continental orbit, according to political observers. Improved trade relations with U.S. through loans is big factor. (United Press in N.Y. Times).

CUBA WEIGHS TERMS OF U.S. LOAN as returning envoy, Pedro Martínez Fraga, claims negotiations still are under way. Says it is up to Cuban Government to decide on acceptance of financial conditions. Does not specify conditions or amount of loan which is understood to be \$50,000,000. (Special to N.Y. Times).

FABLED KING RANCH IN TEXAS OPEN for first time to public to allow surveying of last link in new \$15,000,000 highway route from eastern part of U.S. to Mexico. Twenty year-struggle to get road through barred ranching empire ended in name of "international good fellowship and national defense." (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune)

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NOTE: Compiled from various sources. Not an expression of official opinion.

LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 130

December 19, 1940.

UNIFYING OF AMERICAN REPUBLICS to be dominant note in Presidential inaugural ceremony, according to Joseph E. Davies, committee chairman. (Washington-Times Herald).

ARGENTINE SENATE VOTES ECONOMIC PLAN designed by Finance Minister Pinedo to further economic rehabilitation of country. Provides for restriction of imports from U.S. in accord with dollar exchange. (United Press in Washington-Times Herald).

ARGENTINE ELECTION RIOT QUELLED by police with tear gas bombs as mob in Rosario protests results of Sunday's voting in Santa Fé province. (United Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

BRAZILIAN-CANADIAN RELATIONS ESTABLISHED. President Vargas sets up Brazilian legation at Ottawa. (United Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

ECUADOR URGED TO EXPAND DEFENSES, especially air force and navy, to aid in continental preparedness program, by editorial appearing in Telégrafo. Mission of U.S. officers to assist Ecuadorean general staff. Editorial claims contribution of recently cancelled Italian mission was "completely negative." (Special Cable to N. Y. Times).

MEXICO MAY CURB RAIL UNION as President Avila Camacho studies problem of worker-managed National Railways. Proposes to abolish workers' management and substitute joint board of four government, three union representatives. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

MALADMINISTRATION INQUIRY OPENS in Mexico. Investigation of alleged maladministration committed in favor of a Japanese company by Under Secretary of National Economy in Cárdenas Government, requested by Senate. Vast oil concession for Japanese interests also included in charges. (Wireless to N.Y. Times).

\$10,000,000 EXPORT BANK CREDIT FOR PERU announced by Federal Loan Administrator Jones. Amount approved for transfer to Central Reserve Bank of Peru to cover purchases in U.S. Available in amounts not exceeding \$1,000,000 per month. (N.Y. Times).

U.S. PURSUIT GROUP GOES TO PUERTO RICO. Army Air Corps announces detailing of additional 1,000 men "for permanent station" on Caribbean island. (Washington-Times Herald).

BRITISH SHIP AT MONTEVIDEO. Auxiliary cruiser Queen of Bermuda is third British ship to call in two weeks. Officials reveal that Queen of Bermuda had taken 22 Germans removed from Brazilian steamship Itape to Falkland Islands, British South Atlantic base.



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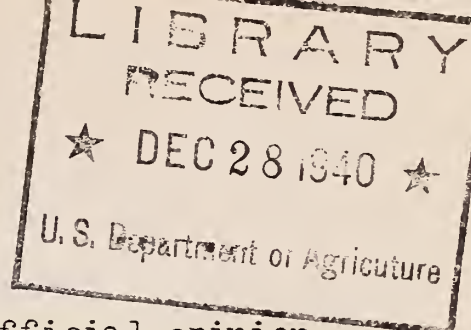
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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 131

December 20, 1940.

PURCHASE OF LATIN AMERICAN SURPLUSES would be effected by bill now before House to amend Agriculture Adjustment Act permitting exchange of domestic agricultural products for agricultural commodities in foreign countries and use of products received from such countries for domestic relief. Bill has been referred to Committee on Agriculture.

U.S. BUYING MORE LATIN AMERICAN COPPER, according to Federal Loan Administrator Jones who announces purchase by government's Metals Reserve Company of 100,000 tons. Purchase includes shipments from four companies. (By United Press in N.Y. Times).

CHILE READY TO SHIP WINE, first lot consisting of 60,000 cases destined for U.S., Cuba, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela and Mexico. Export Board says concentration of wine-producing enterprises has been accomplished and quality standards well advanced. Chile vying with Argentina in wine shipments from South America to supplant supplies normally received from Europe. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times and N.Y. Herald Tribune).

CHILE PROMOTING NITRATE SALES IN U.S. Seeks new expansion in effort to replace Germany, United Kingdom and Netherlands which have supplied U.S. needs. U.S. rated 75 percent self-sufficient in nitrates but Chile would rather sell here than to Japan. (N.Y. Times).

OUSTER OF COMMUNISTS ASKED by Socialists in Chile. Plan to reinforce ranks of Popular Front by excluding Communists is principal result of various political assemblies. Socialist party gives firm support to new anti-Communist policy outlined by Oscar Schnake, Minister of Trade Development. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

THREE U.S. NAVY MEN HELD at Guantanamo in connection with death of unemployed former Cuban boxer. Lieut. Kenneth Webster said to have struck boxer as latter attempted to board navy launch. (Wireless to N.Y. Times).

MEXICAN-CANADIAN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS considered possible as result of discussions in Mexico City. Foreign Minister Ezequiel Padilla is studying plan for sending Mexican envoy to Canada. (United Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

FIRST COSTA RICAN AMBASSADOR TO HONDURAS presents credentials to officials in Tegucigalpa. (United Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

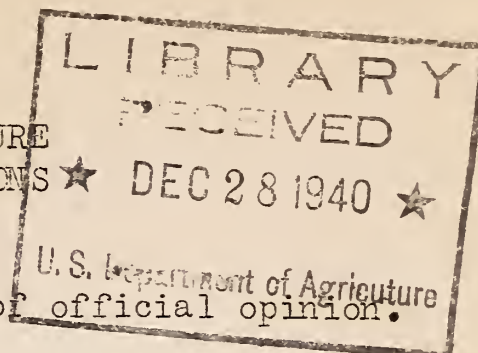
RESTRICTION OF UNIFORMED MEN from Puerto Rican cafes and other public places hit by Cecil Snyder, U.S. District Attorney in San Juan, who calls attention to illegality of such a ban. Proprietors of movie houses and restaurants claim civilian customers threaten to withdraw patronage if soldiers and sailors are admitted. (Wireless to N.Y. Times).





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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 132

December 21, 1940.

SOUTH AMERICAN NATIONS MAY FOLLOW EXAMPLE of U.S. should latter decide to take over Danish shipping. British good will mission touring South America stresses shortage of tonnage available for trade. (Wireless to N.Y. Times).

WORLD COFFEE PRICE MOVEMENT under consideration, according to editorial in Brazilian newspaper "O Globo." Such agreement would embrace American, Asian and African producers. Promoters stress necessity of keeping coffee and industrial prices at corresponding level. Similar movement for world sugar prices being considered, according to paper. (United Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

RUBBER SURVEY ACTIVITIES REPORTED at luncheon for rubber research men at U.S. Department of Commerce, by Loren G. Polhamus, of B.P.I. Transportation problems discussed.

ARGENTINA GIVES BEEF TO BRITAIN. Donations to British fighting forces by Argentine packing industry in last few months approximates 1,000 tons. Commerce Department calls it "gesture of practical sympathy." (Special to N.Y. Times).

BRAZILIAN AVIATION AIDED BY U.S. COOPERATION, according to Major Orsini de Araujo Coriolano of Brazilian Air Force. Says Brazilian pilot training program includes having air force carry nation's mail in U.S. planes. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

CUBAN GOVERNMENT REQUESTS SERVICES of Dr. T. W. Cole, U.S.D.A. veterinarian, in connection with Cuban tick eradication program. Dr. Cole available for assignment after January 2.

ANTI-DEMOCRATIC PROPAGANDA WOULD BE BLOCKED in Cuba by motion approved by Senate asking government to declare persona non grata all foreign diplomatic and consular officials who use immunity to spread such doctrines. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

DOMINICAN REFORESTATION PROBLEMS BEING STUDIED by Arthur Bevin, Director of Tropical Forest Experiment Station in Puerto Rico and his assistant, at request of Dominican Republic Settlement Association.

ECUADOR-PERU BORDER DISPUTE DISCUSSED again by Ecuadorean officials following street demonstrations in Quito protesting activities of Peruvian border guards. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

MEXICAN PRESIDENT URGES AMENDMENT to constitution aimed at abolishing all interference of politics in functioning of judiciary. Under terms, Supreme Court Justices would receive life appointments. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

PANAMA MAY BAR "THE DICTATOR," Chaplin film, as result of protests by German and Italian legations. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).





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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 133

December 23, 1940.

LACK OF POLICY SEEN IN LATIN AMERICAN LOANS. Respect for sound financial principles urged in new outlays by U.S. (By George Wanders in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

ARGENTINA IMPORTS MORE FROM U.S. than this country buys. Imports of U.S. goods into Argentina in first 11 months of this year had tariff value of 300,055,897 pesos while Argentina's exports to U.S. during same period were valued at 211,816,447 pesos, according to Argentine Information Bureau. (N.Y. Times).

BIG FARM PROGRAM PLANNED BY BRAZIL. 80 percent of Brazilian territory is suited to agriculture yet only small part under cultivation. 1941 will see increased production, Minister of Agriculture, Fernando Costa, declares. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

BRAZIL BANKERS HONOR AMERICAN. Marquess dos Reis, president, and Francisco dos Santos, exchange director of the Bank of Brazil, tender banquet honoring Walter J. Donnelly, American commercial attaché, "in recognition of his work in creating a better understanding between Brazil and the United States and also for his great efforts to develop trade." (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

CHILE'S POPULAR FRONT COMMITTEE REFUSES TO OUST COMMUNISTS. The Popular Front is "the only guarantee that the Chilean people have for maintaining a democratic régime," the committee says. (N.Y. Times).

EXPORTS FROM U.S. TO CUBA advance 10.8 percent in first 9 months of 1940 over 1939, according to Cuban Committee of the National Foreign Trade Council, Inc. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

\$3,000,000 CREDIT TO DOMINICAN REPUBLIC announced by the U.S. Export-Import Bank. (N.Y. Times)

ECUADOREAN GOVERNMENT EXPELS WALTER GEISE, head of German school in Quito, because of his activity as head of the Gestapo (German secret police) in Guayaquil, according to the newspaper Telegrafo. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

MEXICAN THEATRES GUARDED. Police assign special guards to all theatres showing anti-Nazi films and to all meetings of an anti-Nazi nature in effort to halt a series of organized disturbances. (N.Y. Times).

NICARAGUA NAZIS SHIFT HOLDINGS. Several German merchants in Managua are transferring property to other nationals. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

CHRISTMAS BONUS IN NICARAGUA. President Somoza requests Minister of Public Works to award all laborers on public highways 10 percent of their monthly wage. This will affect 6,000 workers throughout the republic. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

PUERTO RICO TRADE HIGH. Merchants report the biggest Christmas trade ever known. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 134

December 26, 1940.

FIRST PAN AMERICAN ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL CONFERENCE opens at Havana. The conference, aimed at a closer understanding among educators of the Western Hemisphere, is being held under auspices of the World Federation of Education Associations, with headquarters in Washington. Delegates from 19 countries present. (Wireless to N.Y. Times).

FORMATION OF A LATIN AMERICAN NETWORK as a unit of the CBS is announced. Chain to be extended to 18 of the 20 Latin American republics. Operation to begin by September 1, 1941. Move regarded as a step in furthering good neighbor policy between North and South America. (Washington Post).

U.S. SEAPLANE CAPSIZES OFF BRAZIL. Pan American craft is sunk avoiding boat in runway. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

DONALD W. FRANCISCO, U.S. GOOD-WILL ENVOY, arrives in Rio. Mr. Francisco is member of United States committee to improve Latin American relations. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

ECUADOR'S ARMY AND NAVY ordered to learn English. Step considered an important hemisphere defense measure. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

MEXICAN POLICE GUARD WALLACE'S QUIET HOLIDAY. Vice President-elect returns to Mexico City after 16-day visit to Mexican rural districts. (Wireless to N.Y. Herald Tribune).

MEXICO'S DRAFT FACES DELAY for lack of funds. Need for loan from U.S. hinted. (By Jack O'Brine in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

MEXICO REBUFFS TOKIO MISSION on trade drive. Leaders are 'absent' when Mizutani's group calls. Refinery of government-operated petroleum industry bans visitors. (By Jack O'Brine in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

GOLD EXPORTS FROM NICARAGUA to U.S. set at \$6,000,000 during last 11 months. Next year's production to be twice that amount, according to officials. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

PANAMA'S PRESIDENT ABROGATES CONSTITUTION of 1904 in favor of that adopted by National Assembly last month. New basic law effective Jan. 2. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

URUGUAY URGED TO OPEN PORTS to British navy. Press demanding change of neutrality to nonbelligerence. (By John W. White in N.Y. Times).

GERMAN MINISTER TO URUGUAY, Otto Langmann, criticizes press of Uruguay for its pro-British attitude. "Some organs of the press have considered it good taste to describe German warships as 'raiders' while corresponding British ships are called 'warships' and 'auxiliary cruisers'," he says. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).





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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 135

December 27, 1940.

INTER-AMERICAN CURRENCY SYSTEM proposed by Prof. J.V. Zaragozi, Cuban tariff expert, at First Pan American Economic Commercial Conference in Havana. Purpose: to stabilize monies in the Americas. (Wireless to N.Y. Times).

U.S. BASE AT MARTINIQUE sought by naval leaders. Admiral Leahy is expected to open conversations regarding it upon arrival at Vichy. (United Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

ARGENTINE PACT SIGNED. Export-Import Bank announces signing of agreement conveying \$60,000,000 loan to Argentine Central Bank, as agreed on few months ago. (N.Y. Times).

ARGENTINA EASES U.S. TRADE. Exchange Office establishes temporary regulation to permit drugs, chemicals and other essential articles to enter without restrictions. Exchange is to be granted up to 50 percent of value on other imports, such as machinery, electrical and radio equipment, hardware and timber. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

BRAZILIAN FLOOD KILLS 30. Juiz de Fora in the State of Minas Geraes, suffers 24-hour heavy rainfall, causing deaths and \$5,000,000 damages. Troops rush to relieve 50,000 stricken families. (United Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune and Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

CHILE CURBS STRIKES. Minister of Interior Arturo Olvarria rules that strikes must be limited to 10 days during present war. All agricultural strikes will be illegal until after harvest. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune and N.Y. Times; and Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

CUBAN WHIRLWIND TAKES 40 LIVES and injures 100, near town of Bejucal. More than 200 doctors and nurses are sent from Havana to aid sufferers. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

SPAIN ANGERED BY CUBAN ANTI-FALANGIST TALK. Arriba, a Rightist newspaper, attacks "corrosive and subversive elements" who insult Spain. This is outcome of Senator de la Cruz's campaign against Genaro Riestra, head of Falange organization in Cuba. (Wireless to N.Y. Times).

MEXICO CUTS LABOR'S POWER. Chamber of Deputies gives President Avila Camacho first important parliamentary victory by unanimously approving his bill depriving Railroad Workers Syndicate of management over national railroads. Measure is unopposed by workers' organizations. (Wireless to N.Y. Times).

MEXICO AUTHORIZES U.S. PLANE FLIGHTS. Senate approves bill permitting U.S. military planes to fly and make landings at Minatitlán and Nejeria on way to Panama Canal Zone, without special permission for each trip. (Wireless to N.Y. Herald Tribune).

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PANAMA O.K.'S CHAPLIN FILM. Despite protest by German Minister, Mayor Vásquez and Censorship Board in Colón city rule that "the Great Dictator" may be shown. "...full liberty of expression...fortunately continues to exist in Panama," says Board. Censorship of the picture in Panama City is still being considered. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

PARAGUAY LIBERALS HELD. Government rounds up leaders of Liberal Party on charges that they had plotted overthrow of existing regime. Travelers report 180 in jail. (Associated Press in N.Y. Times).

BRITAIN DENIES REQUEST FOR URUGUAYAN HELP. Spokesman of British legation says that popular demands for opening Montevideo to unrestricted use of British warships was not prompted by British official sources. (By John W. White in N.Y. Times).

VENEZUELAN MAJORS TO STUDY U.S. AIR TACTICS. Military mission to arrive next month will study U.S. air defenses. Major Guillermo Pacaninas, mission head, and Major Jorge Marciano of Venezuelan Air Corps, are already in U.S. (N.Y. Herald Tribune and Associated Press in N.Y. Times).

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 136

December 28, 1940.

ARGENTINE-U.S. EXCHANGE PACT SIGNED. \$50,000 of U.S. Stabilization Fund is earmarked to keep even exchange between Argentine peso and U.S. dollar. (N.Y. Herald Tribune and N.Y. Times).

BUENOS AIRES BANS SPY PICTURE. "Confessions of a Nazi Spy" is judged injurious to a nation friendly to Argentina, by municipal motion picture board. (United Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune). "The Great Dictator" is also barred upon request of Italian Embassy although it had been billed for a joint premiere at three theatres to raise funds for civilian aviation student training planes. (Associated Press in N.Y. Times).

BRAZILIAN COLLEGE RAID discloses 499 German books out of 500 found. Bahia institution had 80 pupils receiving German education. (Cable to N.Y. Times).

BRAZIL FETES U.S. OFFICIAL. Foreign Minister Oswaldo Aranha tenders farewell luncheon to Walter T. Donnelly, U.S. Commercial Attaché, prior to departure for New Orleans on vacation. (N.Y. Times).

CHILEAN CONCERNS ELECT OFFICERS. Subsidiaries of Anaconda Copper Mining Company elect Cornelius F. Kelley and James R. Hobbins, Chairman and President, respectively. (N.Y. Times).

MEXICAN SENATE OPPOSES PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEES for Supreme Court. Three out of 20 are rejected as "reactionaries." (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

NICARAGUA ORDERS \$100,000 U.S. MATERIALS for new communications and customs building to cost nearly \$1,000,000. (N.Y. Times).

PARAGUAY MINIMIZES ARRESTS. High government official says that only "a limited number of persons of secondary significance" had been detained under "police precautions" and some had already been released. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

NEW PERUVIAN INDUSTRY foreseen as H.A. Brassert Company, consulting engineers, complete survey. About 12,000,000 tons of iron ore, 56 percent to 67 percent pure, is available 325 miles south of Lima. Ore is to be shipped north to Chimbote, 650 miles distant, where steel mills are to be built. Anthracite coal mines a few miles inland from Chimbote will supply 200,000 tons yearly for mills and an equal amount for export. (The Hemisphere).

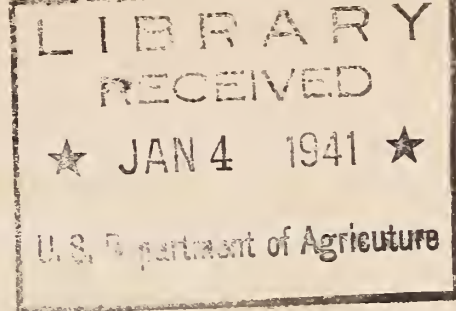
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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 137

December 30, 1940.

INCREASED PRODUCTION IN LATIN AMERICA of non-competitive products needed in U.S. foreseen by L.A. Wheeler, Director of Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations in Annual Report to Secretary of Agriculture. Mentions rubber, tea, abacá, cinchona, hardwood, vegetable oils, drugs and herbs. Emphasizes importance of surveys in Latin American field and cites progress already made. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

PAN AMERICAN CULTURAL COOPERATION STRESSED at closing session of First Pan American Economic and Commercial Conference in Havana. Resolution adopted for setting up of special committees in each nation to further develop practical means for cultural and economic collaboration. Establishment of bureaus to study national food production also recommended. (Wireless to N.Y. Times).

BRAZIL FORMS HEMISPHERE TRADE UNIT, according to announcement by Coordinator Nelson Rockefeller, Chairman of Inter-American Development Commission. Brazil's is first council to be established by Commission and is composed of five Brazilian financial leaders. Similar councils to be established in other American republics and U.S. General purpose of Commission is to foster increased import of non-competitive Latin American goods and to encourage industrial development in Latin America. (Special to N.Y. Times).

BRAZIL LAUNCHES NEW DESTROYER with President Vargas presiding at ceremony. Besides honoring the new ship, Marize Barros, the ceremonies celebrated the laying of keels for four other destroyers. (Associated Press in N.Y. Times).

CHILE REDUCING ITS DEBT TO U.S. According to Amortization Institute principal has been reduced by \$6,215,500 this year and Chile has paid 1.54 percent in interest on total foreign debt. (United Press in N.Y. Times).

STORMS INJURE BANANA TREES. Weekly banana shipments to U.S. from Guatemala expected to be reduced from normal 100,000 stems to about 7,000 for next months as result of heavy wind storms which destroyed 4,000,000 plants on United Fruit plantations. (Associated Press in N.Y. Times).

HAITI HONORS PANAMA OFFICIALS. President Arias and Foreign Minister Raúl de Roux are decorated by Haitian government with Order of Pétion and Bolívar. (Wireless to N.Y. Times).

AMNESTY BILL DRAWN IN MEXICO by President Avila Camacho. Grants amnesty to all persons held guilty of political crimes during recent presidential campaign. (Associated Press in N.Y. Times).

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST - 2

MEXICAN OIL OUTLET SOUGHT. Group of Mexicans visit El Salvador to study possibilities of increased sale of Mexican gasoline at very low prices. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

NICARAGUAN GOLD CONCESSION RENEWED. Government renews rights of Neptune Gold Mining Company of New York for five years. Company exempted from payment of customs duties on machinery and supplies. Abandoned property five years ago, mine now is one of best producers in Nicaragua. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

NEW PANAMA MAYOR CLEANS CITY. Colonel Nicolás A. Barletta starts campaign to make city cleanest in Latin America. Gives home owners 25 days to make necessary repairs including painting of roofs. Mayor also requires all signs to be in Spanish. Two restaurants fined for having menus in English without Spanish equivalent. (Special to N.Y. Times).

PANAMA COURT ACCEPTS DECREE of President Arias on new Constitution which becomes effective Jan. 2. Constitution was approved by plebiscite Dec. 15. (Wireless to N.Y. Times).

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 138

December 31, 1940.

ROOSEVELT'S SPEECH HAILED IN LATIN AMERICA. Latin American republics united in praise of strong leadership. Mexico believes speech brings nearer U.S. entry into war. Argentina: Speech considered "forceful summation of democracy's case against dictators"; Colombia: "His voice is the voice of the Americas"; Bolivia: "Hitler's most dangerous weapon...psychological blitzkrieg, is destroyed by the vibrant words of President Roosevelt"; Chile: Speech generally applauded but no editorial comment; Ecuador: "Unanimous sentiment" applauds discourse; Panama: Highly favorable editorial comment. Calls Roosevelt "authorized spokesman" of Americas; Paraguay: Headline - "Yankee President initiates break between Germany and U.S."; El Salvador: Government says speech merits "every possible support." (United Press, Associated Press, N.Y. Times and Columbia Broadcasting System).

HURRICANE INJURES ARGENTINE CROPS. Storm in northern provinces destroys 25 percent of wheat, flax and potato crops, and 60 percent of tomato plants. Peach, strawberry, apple and other fruit crops suffer. (United Press in N.Y. Times).

BRAZILIAN-GERMAN AIRLINE EXTENDED. German-controlled Condor Airlines extends network 765 miles, connecting Therezina with Fortaleza. (United Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

BRAZILIAN COFFEE EXPORTS SHOW INCREASE during past week with 383,000 bags as compared with 291,000 bags for previous week. Cargoes to U.S. increased proportionately. (N.Y. Times).

BRITISH TRADE LEADER IN CHILE. Lord Willington, heading British mission to Latin America, talks with officials and pressmen regarding expansion of trade. Says mission interested also in "spiritual contacts." (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

COLOMBIAN WARSHIP INVESTIGATES RUMORS of establishment, on Colombia's Malpelo island, of Japanese submarine base. Authorities silent on findings. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

12 KILLED BY FIRING SQUAD in Guatemala after conviction on charges of sedition and attempted rebellion. Reserve Colonel, doctor, six army sergeants, two corporals and a private included in group said to have planned revolt on Christmas Eve. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

MEXICO PERMITS CHAPLIN FILM SHOWING. Ministry of Foreign Relations rejects official German protest against "The Great Dictator." (Associated Press in N.Y. Times).

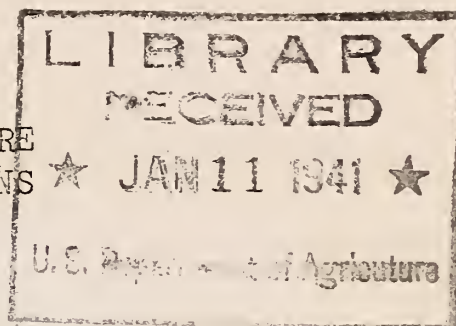
STORM CLOSES MONTEVIDEO PORT. 60-mile-an-hour wind causes closing order. American steamer, Delbrasil, forced to anchor in River Plate. (United Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

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Index to Latin American News Digest

December 16-31, 1940

Note: In each day's digest, items of general Latin American and Pan American interest appear first. These are followed by items dealing with specific countries and their relations with the United States. Each item from December 16-31, inclusive, is here listed under as many countries, products or other subjects as it touches. The items indexed are compiled from various sources including despatches published in the press.

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